

**Application Guidelines for Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship
“Preparatory Education for the International Agricultural Development Program
Leading to Regional Development” for 2024**

1. Eligibility for application

- (1) Applicants must fulfill one of the following conditions:
 - (a) Those who have completed 12 years of school education in a foreign country (including those who are certain to complete the course at the time of admission).
 - (b) Those who have completed a course of study at a school corresponding to a Japanese high school in a foreign country (including those who are certain to fulfill the requirements at the time of admission).
 - (c) Those who are qualified to enter a Japanese university based on qualifications other than the above (the conditions described in "Qualifications for Application for Privately Financed International Student Selection at Okayama University" shall apply accordingly).
- (2) In principle, those born on or after April 2, 1999.
- (3) Those who have Japanese nationality are not, in principle, eligible for application. However, only dual nationals with Japanese nationality who have a base of residence outside of Japan at the time of application and who plan to choose a foreign nationality and renounce Japanese nationality by the date of enrollment shall be eligible.
- (4) Applicants who have applied as candidates for the Japanese Government Scholarship for the "International Agricultural Development Program Leading to Regional Development" (hereinafter referred to as "INAF"), which has been selected as a "Special Program for Priority Placement of Japanese Government Scholarship Students in FY2024" by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and intend to enter the Faculty of Agriculture at Okayama University after completing the research student period (for preparatory education). However, applicants must be able to make a firm commitment to enroll in the Faculty of Agriculture, Okayama University if they pass the entrance examination.

2. Preparatory Education

For 6 months from October 2024.

3. Application procedures

(1) Application documents

When applying, submit electronic files (mainly PDF files) of the following documents. Only if the applicant has passed the online interview, the original documents must be submitted by the due date as indicated in (4).

- (a) Application form (form prescribed in the URL below)
https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20231115-mxt_kotokoku02-000032633-02.pdf
- (b) Statement of reasons for application (any format, A4 size, PDF file acceptable)
- (c) A copy of the applicant's passport (or a copy of a certificate of family register, certificate of citizenship, or other identification issued by the government of their home country)
- (d) Transcript of the last school attended (high school or university) (issued by the school attended) 《Please submit a copy in PDF format at the time of application. Submit the original at a later date.》

*Submit together with the transcripts issued by the school from which the applicant graduated, if any, showing the grade evaluation categories.

- (e) Certificate(s) of (prospective) graduation or a Diploma of the last school attended (high school or university)
《Submit a photocopy of the certificate as a PDF file at the time of application. The original must be submitted at a later date.》
 - (f) Certificate of passing the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) (level N2 or above recommended)
 - (g) Others (recommended to submit) Proof of language ability, such as scores of EJU and English proficiency tests (e.g., TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS, etc.)
*If you submit a certificate of JLPT level N3, be sure to submit a score on the English proficiency test equivalent to Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) B2 or higher.
 - (h) Certificate of enrollment (for applicants currently enrolled in a university, etc.)
《Submit a PDF file of a photocopy at the time of application. The original must be submitted at a later date.》
 - (k) Transcript of Academic Record (for applicants currently enrolled in a university, etc., transcript of the university attended) (optional)
《Please submit a photocopy in PDF format at the time of application. Submit the original at a later date.》
- ※Certificates in foreign languages other than English must be submitted with Japanese translations.

(2) Payment of the application fee

Not required at the time of application. However, those who pass the online interview must apply for the Research Student Program (Japanese Government Scholarship: INAF Preliminary Education) at the Faculty of Agriculture, Okayama University (Application fee: 9,800 yen, which will be returned later if the applicant is selected as a Japanese Government Scholarship student).

(3) Application period

February 9 (Fri.) - February 16 (Fri.), 2024

(4) Where and how to apply

Faculty of Agriculture Office, Educational and Student Affairs

Electronic application:

qgg8286@adm.okayama-u.ac.jp

Mail the original application (by April 22 (Mon.), 2024) by Airmail or Express Mail Service (DHL, EMS, FedEx, etc.): 〒700-8530 Okayama, Okayama City, Kita-ku, Tsushima-naka 1-1-1

(4) Method of Determination of Acceptance and Notification

Applicants who pass the screening based on application documents will be invited to an online interview in Japanese on April 13 (Sat.) for final determination of acceptance or rejection. The method of the online interview will be notified to eligible applicants individually by Monday, April 1, 2024. Applicants will be notified of their acceptance or rejection as candidates and the results of their recommendation as candidates for the Japanese Government Scholarship by e-mail. The final decision on acceptance or rejection as a Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship candidate will be made by MEXT in July 2024 and those candidates will be notified as soon as it is known.

(5) Inquiries: (Inquiries must be sent in English or Japanese)
Faculty of Agriculture Office, Educational and Student Affairs
qgg8286@adm.okayama-u.ac.jp

(6) Others

INAF is accepting applications for 6 Privately Funded International Students in addition to the 6 Japanese-Government-Sponsored International Students. Privately Financed International Students will be selected through the Special Selection for Privately Financed International Students 2025 (conducted in December 2024).